

2018-2019 Annual Report

Youth Matter in Colonial Heights

OFFICE ON YOUTH & HUMAN SERVICES

***OFFICE ON YOUTH
&
HUMAN SERVICES***

201 James Avenue
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Colonial Heights VA
(804) 520-9286





Office on Youth & Human Services

July 1, 2019

Honorable T. Gregory Kochuba
Honorable Members of City Council
City of Colonial Heights
P O Box 3401
Colonial Heights VA 23834

Dear Mayor Kochuba & Members of Council:

The 2018-2019 Annual Report for the Office on Youth & Human Services details the programs and initiatives for youth and families in Colonial Heights. I am proud to present this year's report to City Council.

The Office on Youth, Youth Services Commission, and the Youth Advisory Council appreciate your continued support. We value your commitment and advocacy for youth and families in our community.

Sincerely,

Doug Harris

Youth Services Commission Chair

OFFICE ON YOUTH

MISSION STATEMENT

The Office on Youth and Human Services serves Colonial Heights' citizens by working to develop and improve community assets which assist families in raising healthy children.

The Office on Youth and Human Services partners, collaborates, and supports the work of City groups and organizations.

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

The Office on Youth serves as a community partner with other organizations to meet youth and family needs. In this role, the Office on Youth is active in several local, regional and state efforts.

- ⇒ Children's Services Act Program (FAPT & CPMT)
- ⇒ Colonial Heights Public Schools
- ⇒ Community Criminal Justice Board
- ⇒ Virginia Department of Conservation & Recreation
- ⇒ Twelfth District Court Service Unit
- ⇒ Families First Program
- ⇒ Colonial Heights Fire Department
- ⇒ Juvenile & Domestic Violence Task Force
- ⇒ Partnership for Youth
- ⇒ CARES (Crisis Assistance Response Emergency Shelter) Board
- ⇒ Colonial Heights Food Pantry
- ⇒ Community Coalitions of Virginia and SAFE
- ⇒ Positive Parenting Coalition
- ⇒ Virginia Juvenile Community Crime Control Act
- ⇒ District 19 Community Services Board
- ⇒ Interagency Prevention Team
- ⇒ Colonial Heights CADRE Coalition
- ⇒ Hugh O'Brian Youth Leadership - HOBY Virginia Corporate Board
- ⇒ Evidence Based Decision-Making Team
- ⇒ CAAN-DUU Coalition/Suicide Prevention Committee
- ⇒ Smart Beginnings/School Readiness Coalition
- ⇒ Literacy Action Network
- ⇒ Children's Advocacy Center
- ⇒ Southside Trauma Informed Care Network
- ⇒ Social Work Advisory Board for Virginia State University

STAFF

Eileen Brown
MSW, LCSW
Director

Becca Lynch
Youth Program
Coordinator

Abby Lynch
Youth Specialist

Tavaris Robinson
Youth Specialist



YOUTH SERVICES COMMISSION

Doug Harris - Chairman	Krishan Agrawal - School Board
Margie Strum - Vice Chairman	Bland Campbell
Ryan Blair Martin - Secretary	Dorothy Vincent
Ashley Barksdale - Rec & Parks	To-shera Friend-Kimble
Sgt. Kyle Sexton - CHPD	Kaiya Keckler - YAC President
Lamese Essey	Bryanna Neece—YSC Representative
Elizabeth Luck - City Council	Austin Ouelette - YSC Representative



“YAC is a good group to be part of because we learn about leadership and do projects that help so many people.”

YAC Member

YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL

Kaiya Keckler - President	Morgan Erner
Joey Upadhyay - 1st VP	Ava Foulkrod
Andrea Davenport - 2nd VP	Andrew Gunder
Pritesh Singh - Secretary	Savannah Haley
Luca Musso - Historian	Chandler Hunches
Bryanna Neece - YSC Rep	Caroline Kinder
Austin Ouelette—YSC Rep	Christian Knight
Abby Lynch - Advisor	Aubrie Kooiker
Chase Ackerman	Claudia Miles
Kendall Ackerman	Vivian Miles
Teagan Best	Anna Moore
Sarah Bracewell	Ashlyn Smith
Avery Brockwell	Jessica Sprouse
Ella Kate Brockwell	Kristen Waltman
Madi Cates	Alicia Winnie
Jacob Eaton	
Billy Erner	



- From July, 2018 through June, 2019, Youth Advisory Council members provided over 335 hours of volunteer service in and around their Colonial Heights community.
- The estimated value of their volunteer time is \$9,200!

SUMMARY OF SERVICES

Information & Referral - The Office on Youth & Human Services provides information on youth related issues and services. Information is available in our Resource Directory on the City's web page.

Planning & Program Development - The Office on Youth & Human Services works with community organizations, groups, and agencies to develop resources and services for youth and families.

Public Information - Staff are available to speak to community groups and civic organizations on a variety of topics related to youth and family functioning.



PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Staff accrued over 350 hours of continuing education and professional development on topics including childhood success, suicide prevention, mental/physical health/wellness, CANS, CLeW, High in Plain Sight, active attacker, strengthening connections, money management, family engagement/trauma informed care, ADHD without meds, CPR/AED/First Aid, stress management and self care, ACEs Interface, human trafficking, school refusal, child abuse signs, self healing communities, tobacco control/prevention, empathy, Medicaid, motivational interviewing, mindfulness, emotional/social development of children, ethics, supervision and management, self-injury, conflict resolution, FAPT placements, and advocacy essentials.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2018-2019

YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL

- ⇒ YAC members gave over 335 hours of service to our community
- ⇒ Kaiya Keckler, Joey Upadhyay and Austin Ouelette and Andrew Gunder were awarded the "Coleman Voice of Youth" scholarship
- ⇒ Filled 25 Salvation Army Christmas Stockings
- ⇒ Participated in the CHHS Volunteer-a-thon - made 104 dog toys, made 40 cards for the Richmond Children's Hospital, and earned 55,330 grains of rice at freerice.com
- ⇒ Made and delivered 12 fleece blankets to CARES
- ⇒ Participated in the City Wide Clean Up and adopted James Avenue
- ⇒ Volunteered to Cheer for Special Olympics Summer Games
- ⇒ Delivered lunch to Tri-Cities Work Camp crew
- ⇒ Partnered with CADRE Coalition on the Opiate and Heroin Summit and Project Sticker Shock
- ⇒ Made 30 Care Kits for homeless visitors to the Food Pantry
- ⇒ Donated funds for Anthem LemonAid Stand
- ⇒ Planted pinwheels for Child Abuse Prevention Month with Domestic Violence Task Force and Swift Creek Woman's Club
- ⇒ Volunteered for Back-to-School Festival and Halloween in the Park
- ⇒ Sent Valentine, Veteran's Day, and Christmas Cards to McGuire Hospital veterans and Meals on Wheels recipients
- ⇒ "Happy Graduation" to Kaiya, Joey, Austin, Pritesh, Andrew, Alicia, Christian and Jacob!

Leadership
Volunteerism
Activities
Education
Community Outreach

YOUTH SERVICES COMMISSION

- ⇒ Supported and assisted Youth Advisory Council with projects and activities
- ⇒ Participated in Heroin and Opiate Summits
- ⇒ Advocated for youth and families in Colonial Heights

JUVENILE & DOMESTIC VIOLENCE TASK FORCE

- ⇒ Supported efforts to prevent domestic violence, and to promote and provide trainings for advocates and professionals to better serve victims of domestic abuse
- ⇒ Supported local proclamations in October for “Domestic Violence Awareness and Prevention Month” and in April for “Child Abuse Awareness and Prevention Month”
- ⇒ Planted 750 pinwheels throughout the city with the help of Youth Advisory Council and Swift Creek Woman’s Club to recognize April as “Child Abuse Awareness and Prevention Month”

“You all are kind and caring, and help me without judging me or giving up on me. Thank you!”

Colonial Heights Resident

YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL SHOE FUND

- ⇒ Received referrals for twenty shoe vouchers for the purchase of a new pair of shoes for school aged children
- ⇒ Partnered with JC Penney and local civic organizations (American Legion, Optimists Club, and a private citizen) who provided funds for children’s shoes

COMPREHENSIVE SERVICES ACT

- ⇒ Served 19 youth and their families with a variety of services including community-based services, therapeutic foster care, respite services, day school programs, and residential treatment
- ⇒ Of those 19; 7 (37%) were from the Department of Social Services, 12 (63%) were from Colonial Heights Public Schools, 0 (0%) was from the Juvenile Court Services, and 0 (0%) was from the Community Services Board
- ⇒ CSA expenditures for FY2018 were \$1,430,200.



INTERAGENCY PREVENTION TEAM

- ⇒ Multi-disciplinary, community based team served 12 students and their families for issues regarding school attendance, behavioral concerns and legal matters
- ⇒ Distributed brochures explaining the purpose and process of the Interagency Prevention Team
- ⇒ Made recommendations for at-risk youth to enhance opportunities for success at home, in school, and in the community



“The Shoplifting Diversion Program was presented in a very respectful and informative way. It was a perfect opportunity for my child to learn from his mistake.”

Diversion Parent

VIRGINIA JUVENILE COMMUNITY CRIME CONTROL ACT

Community-based programs funded by state and local government to divert youth from the courts, and provide sanctions, education, and services to prevent repeat offending.

SHOPLIFTING DIVERSION PROGRAM

- ⇒ Educational program to inform teens and parent of the consequences of shoplifting
- ⇒ Program served 97 youth and their families

SERVICE LEARNING PROGRAM

- ⇒ Served 43 youth to complete community service hours
- ⇒ Completed 693 hours of community service

SUPERVISION PLAN SERVICES

- ⇒ Served 4 teens to provide a substance abuse assessment and treatment recommendations
- ⇒ Program serves teens who do not have MEDICAID and are not eligible for CSA funding. Services are contracted with the local Community Services Board - District 19.

TEEN LIFE SKILLS

- ⇒ Nine youth completed “Tackling the Tough Skills for Teens”
- ⇒ Program covered attitude, problem solving, communication, respect and job skills

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

YOUTH CONSERVATION CORPS DAY PROGRAM

- ⇒ Office on Youth partnered with Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation and the Chesterfield Adolescent Reporting Program to staff the Youth Conservation Corps (YCC) Day Program at Pocahontas State Park.
- ⇒ The mission is “to engage young people in a structured program of conservation and park projects while providing learning that fosters teamwork, self-esteem, social responsibility and respect for the environment.”
- ⇒ Two staff attended 20 hours of crew leader training required by DCR prior to the program.
- ⇒ Thirteen crew members and crew leaders completed the three week program, and crew members earned a stipend at the end of the program.

COMMUNITY PROGRAMMING

- ⇒ Provided 259 hours of supervised community service for 23 teens
- ⇒ Shared “Open Arms? Open Eyes!” on healthy relationships with 231 CHMS 8th graders
- ⇒ Presented Career Day information to 37 Colonial Heights Middle School students
- ⇒ Shared resources with 39 parents and teens at 6th Grade “Dream Team” meeting
- ⇒ Provided Safe Driving Materials to 92 teens receiving driver’s licenses in Juvenile Court
- ⇒ Shared Alcohol Awareness information with eight students
- ⇒ Presented “Adverse Childhood Experiences & Trauma Informed Care: Engaging What’s Strong, Not What’s Wrong” Training for 36 Youth Conservation Corps Crew Leaders for the Department of Conservation and Recreation
- ⇒ Participated in “Read Aloud Day” with 5th graders at Lakeview Elementary School

KIDS’ AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAM

- ⇒ Kids’ Achieving Progress Afterschool Program is a referral program for youth in Fourth through Eighth Grades based on need for academic support, enhancement of social skills, promotion of positive behavior, increase in physical activity
- ⇒ Served 47 youth from Tussing, North, and Lakeview Elementary Schools, and Colonial Heights Middle School
- ⇒ Provided 1780 hours of mentoring and tutoring by 50 volunteers from Colonial Heights High School, John Tyler Community College, Virginia State University, and Matoaca High School
- ⇒ Program Coordinator provided 30 hours of Volunteer Training, and 36 hours of Staff Training on Active Attacker, Child Abuse Signs, Ethics in the Workplace, Money Mindset, Effective Communication, Managing Challenging Behaviors, Trauma and Resilience
- ⇒ Service project included Veteran’s Day cards for McGuire Veterans’ Hospital
- ⇒ Enjoyed in-house programs from Bricks4kidz and Science Tellers



“The Crazy 8 math games let me learn and have fun at the same time.”

Haley - 5th grade

“My family really appreciated KAP so much. My daughter made great friends and learned so much.”

KAP Parent



CADRE COALITION

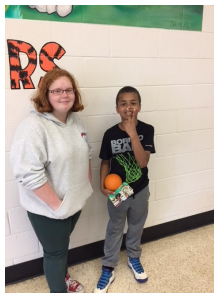
- ⇒ Adult coalition supported CHHS CADRE in Project Sticker Shock
- ⇒ Encouraged participation in the YADAPP (Youth Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention Project) leadership conference at Longwood

PHOTO GALLERY

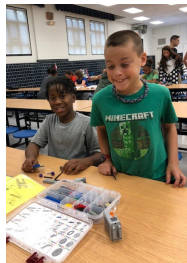
PAGE 9



KAP
Kids' After-School Program



Author **JEANNETTE WALLS**
"The Glass Castle"
Rural Summit on Childhood Success



PINWHEEL PLANTING
Child Abuse Prevention Month



VOLUNTEERING
Therapeutic Recreation



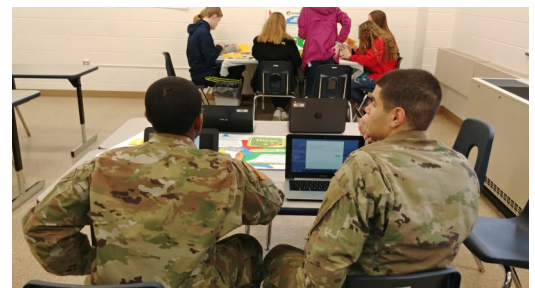
YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL
City Wide Clean Up Day



POCAHONTAS STATE PARK
Youth Conservation Corps Day



HOB Y CLeW
Radford University



VOLUNTEER-A-THON



SERVICE LEARNING
Picnic Table Painting



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